Amendments to the Claims:

1-23. (canceled)

24. (new) Braking apparatus for use with a hand propelled vehicle having a handle by which said vehicle is propelled by hand and braking means for braking said vehicle, said apparatus including means for sensing touch of, or grip of, portion of said handle by a user propelling said vehicle, and control means associated with said touch or grip sensing means for preventing or stopping movement of said vehicle by actuation of said braking means after or upon a predetermined movement of said vehicle subsequent to release of handle of said vehicle by said user as sensed by said touch or grip sensing means.

25. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 24 wherein said touch or grip sensing means comprises one or more touch sensitive switches.

26. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 25 wherein said touch sensitive switch or switches comprise a touch pad or pads on or in the handle.

27. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed claim 24 wherein said vehicle includes a plurality of wheels and wherein said braking means comprises a selectively actuable brake assembly associated with one or more of said wheels and wherein said control means prevents or stops movement of the vehicle by actuation of said selectively actuable brake assembly.

28. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 27 wherein said brake assembly comprises a brake activation device and a braking member which is movable by the activation device into engagement with a vehicle wheel to prevent or stop rotation thereof.

29. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 28 wherein said brake activation device is selectively actuable to release the braking member from the wheel to allow its rotation.

30. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 28 wherein said activation device is single acting and associated with a mechanical member which applies a braking force to, or releases

a braking force from the braking member, in accordance with the state of activation of the brake activation device.

31. (new) Braking apparatus according to claim 28 wherein said brake activation device comprises an electrically operated activation device and wherein the control means is arranged to control the supply of power to the brake activation device to control activation thereof.

32. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 31 wherein said control means includes a switch through which power is supplied to said brake activation device, said switch being associated with the touch or grip sensing means, said control means preventing operation of said switch and thus preventing supply of power to said brake activation device when the touch or grip sensitive means sense touch or grip of the portion of the handle of the vehicle by a user.

33. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 24 wherein said touch or grip sensing means comprises a pair of grip or touch sensitive pads or switches which are spaced apart on the handle of the vehicle.

34. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 33 wherein both said pads or switches are required to be activated by touch or grip by both hands of a user to prevent braking of said vehicle by said braking means.

35. (new) Braking apparatus according to claim 24 and including movement sensing means associated with said vehicle for sensing the velocity of movement of the vehicle and/or directly or indirectly, the distance moved by the vehicle.

36. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 35 wherein said control means is associated with the movement sensing means whereby the control means can determine when to prevent or stop movement of the vehicle.

37. (new) Braking apparatus as claimed in claim 36 wherein said touch sensitive pads or switches comprise a keypad into which a predetermined code or codes is or are required to be entered to release the braking means for use of the vehicle.

38. (new) A hand propelled vehicle having a plurality of supporting wheels and a handle for propelling said vehicle and braking apparatus for braking movement of said vehicle, said braking apparatus being adapted to prevent or stop movement of said vehicle upon a predetermined movement or velocity of said vehicle subsequent to release of said handle by a user.

39. (new) A vehicle as claimed in claim 38 wherein said handle includes touch sensitive means for sensing grip or touch on the handle or release of the handle by said user.

40. (new) A vehicle as claimed in claim 42 and including wheel rotation sensing means for sensing wheel rotation to sense vehicle speed or distance.

41. (new) A vehicle as claimed in claim 43 including programmable control means associated with the touch sensing means and wheel rotation sensing means to control application of a brake to a vehicle wheel to stop movement of the vehicle.

42. (new) A vehicle having a plurality of supporting wheels, braking apparatus for braking movement of said vehicle by braking one or more of said wheels, control means for sensing when a user of said vehicle no longer has control of said vehicle, said control means being further adapted to actuate said braking apparatus to prevent or stop movement of said vehicle upon a predetermined movement or velocity of said vehicle subsequent to release of control of said vehicle by said user.

43. (new) A vehicle as claimed in claim 42 wherein said control means includes touch or pressure sensitive means responsive to said user for sensing that the user has or no longer has control of said vehicle.